

JESSIE (LOARING) EASTWOOD

"We boil at different degrees"

Dear Patty:

Just finished a note to Adrienne and felt I wanted to tell you again how much I enjoyed the reunion. You did a terrific job and twenty-five years ago would probably have been carried "shoulder-high" for the same effort!

It seemed a peculiar thing to me, that after the first impact, and occasionally, shock, at the changes in our faces and figures, the new f. and f. merged into the old remembered one and became the same person even visually that we knew twenty-five years ago! I guess there's a bit of "wishful thinking" in there somewhere!

I hope to see you again before the 50th Patty! In the meantime my very best wishes to you, and thank you again.

Sincerely,

Jess Eastwood

Dear Phoebe:

..... Here is a resume of the way it happened to me, the reunion, that is.

After Patty's two preliminary letters I had a letter from Dorothy Forsythe (Wall). And since Brownie and I had decided already to go, we made reservations for we three at the Park Plaza. I hadn't heard from or seen Dorothy since I visited her and her family in Winnipeg in '39. Outside the fact that she has put on a little weight (she said thirty pounds but its not unbecoming at all) she is just the same. Happy and bubbling and very glad to be there. She must have married a man just exactly right for her. Kay Marsh (Guelph) and Fran Christie (Owen Sound) who hadn't seen or contacted each other for ages were also at the Plaza together. Kay is exactly the same even to the weight bit, and colour of hair. Fran is the same--still "legs" out (not "toes" out) as she says.

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When Brownie and I walked into the Guild Inn for lunch, Patty came forward to meet us. She looked lovely--much thinner and beautifully dressed. Then we had to make the rounds to meet everyone and I had a number of downfalls. Dorothy Cameron--very chic and assured and gray. Adrienne--taller than I remembered and hair going gray and smiling at everything. Ruth Corner--very smartly dressed and happy. I think however if she'd been in Vancouver, not in Aurora, she wouldn't have come anymore than you, but I'm glad she did, and I tried hard to get her "awash" at Adrienne's dinner but couldn't. She didn't come on Tuesday and neither did Jean Sutton who also lives in Aurora. Jean is the same only more so, and I gather she's into everything and is quite a singer. Carol Hendry's cheeks are rosy red--she's put on weight and adores her life in N.S. Fran McConnell is married and has no children. She has taken up art and is doing very well. Shirley Muddiman physically has changed as little as anyone. She seems most capable, very nicely dressed and the old smile ever present. Kay Reed is another one who is the same physically, thin and blond, and a very enjoyable and interesting person.

Just before we sat down to lunch a gorgeous-looking gal in a light blue knitted suit and a big white straw hat came in. I didn't recognize Dorothy Frappier at all! She flew all the way from B.C. and evidently was bent on having a good time. The others can say what they like but Kay Marsh put it best when she stood in front of this big grinning woman and on finally recognizing Marj Fraser said "Something has been added!". Every other "girl" fell into position as to face and figure and speech except her, and became the gals we knew twenty-five years ago. Otherwise she's the same Marj, organizing and running things very efficiently.

Julia Wright has a beautiful new home with all the latest improvements. She's just the same physically. Has two adopted children, boy and girl, and she looks very smart.

Brownie, I know most about of course, since she and Norm are our best friends. We re-met in Windsor (I was Personnel Director at C.H. Smith Store '47-'52) and she walked in to buy drapery material in '51. We have been a foursome ever since, even tho' we moved to Mass. in '56. Last summer we had two of her six girls at Cape Cod with our only child (adopted and named after Joan) and took them over to see Miss Somers. Brownie found her true vocation when she became a mother. She is the best I know, and they have a home that everyone loves to visit.

My own story is as follows. Winnipeg Y.W., '39-'40--couldn't stand the G. Sec'y and vice versa--forcibly transferred to Regina Y.W., '40-'42. Married an Englishman in '42 at Treaty Point Camp. It didn't take and I was free three years later. Worked at the Windsor Y.M.-Y.W. from '42-'45 and then joined the Y.M. War Services and had a ball for nearly a year.

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In May '47 I went to Smith's as P.D. and stayed five years--enjoyed every minute. In '50 I met another Englishman (also called John) and married him. We adopted Joanie in '54 at the age of five weeks and she has been our pride and joy (and at times our despair!) ever since.

We moved to Mass. in '56 and just loved New England--saw Miss Somers fairly frequently. I enjoy her so much. She's just fine--put on a little weight--very hospitable--pretty little home on the Cape.

In November of last year (we were on the road when J.F.K. was killed) we moved to this area, since John was transferred to become Regional Manager of Ohio, Michigan, Kentucky and West Virginia. It is a beautiful spot and only two hundred miles from Windsor. (Brownie lives sixteen miles out of Windsor in Woodslee.)

We three went to England two years ago, (John was given his trip for fifteen years of employment with Gestetner Corp.)

I have been taking music (piano) lessons for three to four years now. Its hard work but I enjoy it. Joan is studying too--but she has some natural talent. Its going to be quite a question as to which will win--a) Joan - talent and no desire; b) Jess--no talent and bags of desire! Not to speak of age difference! Oh yes, and I still swim. I am with the Dayton Synchronettes who put on twenty or more shows a year. They are very good, and sometimes I feel very old. I raced two 26-year olds last week and the result (me 3rd) was only 2/10 sec. apart! Only they could have done it again in a few minutes and I couldn't!

We have a lovely home here, built on the side of the hill with the river (for my red canoe), complete with screened-in barbecue and a billiard room! (We've been trying to buy it, but they won't sell)

My dear--you'll be beat reading this, my love and best wishes to you. Write if you will, I'd love to hear.

Affectionately,

Jess

Mrs. J. Eastwood,
R.R. #1,
Spring Valley, Ohio.

KATHLEEN (MARSH) MC FADGEN

"Or doesn't he care for public opinion?"

- Worked at St. Catherine and Guelph Y's after graduation.
- Married one J. H. McFadgen 1941 - Manufacturer of Paint-Silicone rubber--very nice guy.
- 1945 - Brian Marsh McFadgen born. Honours Eng. - Queens.
- 1949 - Leigh McFadgen - likes horses better than people.
- My interest lo these many years have been to do with Phys. Ed.
 - Y.W.C.A. Board
 - Y.M.-Y.W.C.A. board
 - Recreation Commission
 - National Housing Commission (not to do with Phys. Ed.)
 - Skating, golf, almost too old for tennis.

Kae McFadgen

Mrs. J. H. McFadgen,
41 Liverpool Street,
Guelph, Ontario.

FRANCES (MC CONNELL) ZIEGLER

"Not always smiling, but at least serene."

Let me begin by pointing out to you that in the eyes of some, my life has been very dull. I have no children; no house or flowers to look after; have never been a club woman; nor have I ever had any medical problems.

On the other hand, I have travelled a fair amount; have kept up my interest in sports, particularly tennis and figure skating; devote a great deal of time to painting; and have a husband who requires a lot of attention.

After graduation, I worked as Physical Director of the YWCA in Brantford, Ontario for three years, then held the same position in the Montreal YWCA from 1942 to 1945. Noticing that I was about the only one who lost any weight in the gym and dancing classes, decided the time had come to explore other endeavours. I took a short secretarial course and started to work for the International Air Transport Association in Montreal in 1946 and had a most interesting job for five years, with considerable opportunity to travel. Married an Austrian chemist in 1948, and in 1951 we moved to Toronto where we have lived ever since.

Aside from the activities mentioned above, we enjoy our weekend cottage life at Southampton on Lake Huron in the summer, and are actively interested in the Crest Theatre and the Art Gallery. Life is never dull.

Frances (McConnell) Ziegler

Mrs. P. Ziegler,
69 Mallory Crescent,
Toronto 17, Ontario.

WINNIFRED (MAC LENNAN) JOHNSTON

"I think I could be a good woman if I had 5,000 a year."

Mes amies!

How I should love to be in Toronto for the reunion! All my life I've waited to see England and Scotland and now that I'm here at last, I wish I were in Toronto! Some people are never satisfied!

I've put off writing till the last moment hoping to have a new address to send. Our R.C.A.F. base in France (where we've been only since last November) is closing in July and we haven't had a word yet of our next posting. We are hoping for another European posting, of course!

A friend of mine from Canada is over here visiting me for two months and we've already been to Holland, Switzerland, Italy and the Riviera. Now we're in London and we leave for Scotland tomorrow. I can hardly believe my good fortune but in case it all ends abruptly with a posting back to Canada this summer, I'm seeing as much as I can this spring.

I see by Patty's letter that at least seventeen of you will be together on the sixteenth. As I sit here wondering what you all look like with a few grey hairs, and wrinkles, and maybe slightly-thickened waistlines, I'm imagining that I also see Miss Somers and Miss Layton, Miss Jackson and Mrs. Raymer, Mrs. Allen and Miss Gray with you, and I'm momentarily a bit homesick and nostalgic.

This time last year I saw a few of you at the M.E.S. Reunion when we toured the new Phys. Ed. Building at Varsity--a far cry from our old Yonge Street building! I only hope the present-day students have even half as good a staff, and school-spirit as we had. They're lucky to have Miss Jackson anyway! Do you suppose she ever tells them about the brilliant class of '39?

Somehow, three whole hours have elapsed since I sat down to write this letter and although very little seems to have found its way onto the paper, I've had a wonderful evening reminiscing about the best of all possible schools, and forgetting that if I glance out of the window, I can see Buckingham Palace!

Have a wonderful reunion, and if you feel anything strange in the air between 1:30 and 2:00 p.m. on the 16th of May, it just might be some reverberations coming across the Atlantic (as in her praise I shout and sing)--"Stand Up and Cheer for old M.E.S."

My love to you all.

Winn MacLennan Johnston

Vital Statistics

Weight - same
Hair - still mousey, 3 grey ones
Teeth - a few substitutes
Eyes - on the verge of bifocals
Waist - thickening
Chest - still flat
Tummy - not so flat!
No. of houses lived in in twenty-three years - 33
No. of husbands - 1
No. of children - 4

Mary - (21) has been teaching Phys. Ed. at the United College in Winnipeg this year and plans to go to MacMaster for a Phys. Ed. Degree next year. She has had three summers at Tanamakoon as a camper, CIT, and counsellor, and this summer will teach swimming at an R.C.A.F. base in Germany.

Jamie (19) has just finished his first year in Science at Queen's (where he made the track team) and at the moment is youth hostelling in West Germany. He has a summer job near Paris and plans to go hostelling for two or three weeks with Mary in the fall before they go back to college.

Kathie (16) goes to a French High School and already has a pretty good French accent, unlike her mother. She had a month at Tanamakoon last summer and she too is heading for Phys. Ed.

Charles (11) goes to the R.C.A.F. School and makes no plans for the future beyond the next meal!

Russ - keeps us all happy!

Mrs. E. R. Johnston, .
2 (F) Wing RCAF, CAPO 5052, .
Canadian Armed Forces, Europe.

SHIRLEY MUDDIMAN

"Suddenly a thought came like a full-blown rose."

Had a bit of a mixed-up start..... worked in the Winnipeg Centre for a year. Came to Toronto to live with the family which had been transferred there--and taught at Loretto College School until Christmas, then took over from Wynn McLennan at the Kingston Y.W.C.A. at Christmas time, as Wynn was getting married. (This was 1940-41).... but six months of Y work at Kingston "cured me of Y work" - so I thought!) I returned to the family and moved with them (transfer for the family again) to Montreal where I took a business course at night, and worked as a Secretary-Stenographer for four years! When my mother passed on I felt terribly ashamed that I had not continued in the course my parents had given me - so I applied for the position of Phys. Ed. Director of East Toronto Y.W.C.A. and remained with them for four years, then came into Toronto and was Metropolitan Phys. Ed. Director for two years.

I applied for a transfer from National Council Y.W.C.A. and got the position with the newly-amalgamated Y.W.-Y.M.C.A. of London, Ontario. Stayed with them for six years.

Then I applied, and received acceptance as teacher of Phys. Ed. at Ingersoll District Collegiate Institute where I have been ever since (seven years!). In the meantime, with summer courses, and a year off to spend at Western, I finally got my B.A. degree. As soon as I complete my summer courses at O.C.E. I will be a qualified Secondary School teacher teaching Typing and History along with Phys. Ed..... It's been a long pull, but have enjoyed it all!

Shirley Muddiman

Miss Shirley Muddiman,
180 John Street,
Ingersoll, Ontario.

KATHARINE (REED) SWENSON

"Listen my children and you shall hear."

- 1939-1941 - Loretto Academy,
Niagara Falls
- 1941-1945 - Teachers College,
Fredericton, N.B.
- 1945-1947 - Syracuse U.,
B.A. and B.Ed.
- 1947-1949 - Clark U.,
Worcester, Mass.,
Asst. in Phys. Ed. Women's College
and Housemother.
- 1949 - Married--moved to Providence while
• 1953 Dick did graduate work.
- 1950 - Erica
- 1953 - Rich - New Jersey
- 1955 - Moved to New Shrewsbury, J. J.,
Aileen
- 1956-1964 - Managed Ballet School
- 1963 to present - Substitute in Elementary
schools

Mrs. R. W. Swenson,
65 Edison Ave.,
New Shrewsbury, N.J., U.S.A.



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